

Application Serial No: 10/594,700
Responsive to the Office Action mailed on: August 13, 2008

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IN THE CLAIMS

Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A solid electrolytic capacitor comprising:
a first ~~porous~~-sintered body made of a valve metal; ~~and~~
a second ~~porous~~-sintered body made of a valve metal;
a package that collectively seals the first and the second sintered bodies;
an internal anode terminal electrically connected to each sintered body; and
an external anode terminal electrically connected to the internal anode terminal
and exposed from the package;
wherein each of the sintered bodies is flat and includes two principal surfaces; ~~and~~
wherein the first sintered body and the second sintered body are spaced from each other in a predetermined direction perpendicular to a direction in which the two principal surfaces are spaced from each other;
wherein the internal anode terminal includes a first anode rod and a second anode rod, each of the first and second anode rods projecting from each sintered body;
wherein the solid electrolytic capacitor further comprises a conductor that electrically connects the first anode rod and the second anode rod to each other; and
wherein the conductor includes an anode metal plate fixed to a lower surface of each sintered body via an insulator.

Claims 2-3. (Cancelled)

4. (Currently Amended) The solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim 1 ~~[[3]]~~, further comprising: a dielectric layer and a solid electrolytic layer formed on ~~one of the first and the second~~ each sintered body-bodies; an internal cathode terminal electrically connected to the solid electrolytic layer; and an external cathode terminal electrically

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connected to the internal cathode terminal and exposed from the package.

5. (Currently Amended) The solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim 1 [[3]], wherein ~~the internal anode terminal includes a first anode rod and a second anode rod projecting in an opposite direction from said one of the sintered bodies, and wherein a~~ projecting direction of each of the first anode rod and the second anode rod intersects with the predetermined direction in which the first sintered body and the second sintered body are spaced.

Claims 6-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) The solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim 1 [[7]], wherein at least part of the anode metal plate constitutes the external anode terminal.

9. (Currently Amended) The solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim 1 [[7]], further comprising a cathode metal plate interposed between ~~the respective each~~ sintered ~~body bodies~~ and the insulator, the cathode metal plate including portions that constitute the internal cathode terminal and the external cathode terminal, respectively.

10. (Currently Amended) ~~The A~~ solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim 6, wherein ~~the conductor comprises a metal cover for covering at least part of each sintered body comprising:~~

a first sintered body made of a valve metal;

a second sintered body made of a valve metal;

a package that collectively seals the first and the second sintered bodies;

an internal anode terminal electrically connected to each sintered body; and

an external anode terminal electrically connected to the internal anode terminal

and exposed from the package;

wherein each of the sintered bodies is flat and includes two principal surfaces;

wherein the first sintered body and the second sintered body are spaced from each

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other in a predetermined direction perpendicular to a direction in which the two principal surfaces are spaced from each other;

wherein the internal anode terminal includes a first anode rod and a second anode rod, each of the first and second anode rods projecting from each sintered body;

wherein the first anode rod and the second anode rod are electrically connected to each other via a metal cover that covers at least part of each sintered body.

11. (Currently Amended) ~~The~~ A solid electrolytic capacitor ~~according to claim 3,~~
further comprising:

a first sintered body made of a valve metal;

a second sintered body made of a valve metal;

a package that collectively seals the first and the second sintered bodies;

an internal anode terminal electrically connected to each sintered body; and

an external anode terminal electrically connected to the internal anode terminal and exposed from the package;

wherein each of the sintered bodies is flat and includes two principal surfaces;

wherein the first sintered body and the second sintered body are spaced from each other in a predetermined direction perpendicular to a direction in which the two principal surfaces are spaced from each other;

wherein the solid electrolytic capacitor further comprises: two metal plates made of a valve metal respectively supporting the first sintered body and the second sintered body; and an anode metal plate to which said two metal plates are connected; and

wherein at least part of the anode metal plate serves as the internal anode terminal.

12. (Original) The solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim 11, wherein each of the sintered bodies includes an upper layer portion and a lower layer portion, the upper layer portion being greater in density than the lower layer portion.

13. (Original) The solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim 11, wherein at least part of the anode metal plate serves as the external anode terminal.

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14. (Original) The solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim 11, wherein said two metal plates of the valve metal each are formed, at a lower surface thereof, with a conductor layer having higher solder-wettability than the valve metal, said metal plates of the valve metal being soldered to the anode metal plate.

Claims 15-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently Amended) The solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim 11 ~~[[17]]~~, wherein ~~the compact~~ each sintered body is made of tantalum powder and has a density ranging from 5.5 to 8.0 g/cm³.

19. (Currently Amended) The solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim 18, wherein the density of ~~the compact~~ each sintered body ranges from 6.0 to 7.0 g/cm³.

20. (Currently Amended) The solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim 11 ~~[[17]]~~, wherein ~~the compact~~ each sintered body is formed of ~~one~~ a material selected from a group consisting of niobium powder, niobium(II) oxide powder and niobium nitride powder, and has a density ranging from 2.3 to 4.5 g/cm³.

21. (Currently Amended) The solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim 11 ~~[[20]]~~, wherein the density of ~~the compact~~ each sintered body ranges from 2.5 to 3.5 g/cm³.

22. (Currently Amended) The solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim 11 ~~[[17]]~~, wherein ~~the compact~~ each sintered body is made of tantalum powder, ~~the each~~ metal plate being made of tantalum, the powder contained in the paste being tantalum powder.

23. (Currently Amended) The solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim 11 ~~[[17]]~~, wherein ~~the compact~~ each sintered body is made of niobium powder, ~~the each~~ metal plate being made of niobium, the powder contained in the paste being niobium

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powder.

24. (Currently Amended) The solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim 11 ~~[[17]]~~, wherein ~~the compact~~ each sintered body is made of niobium(II) oxide powder, ~~the~~ each metal plate being made of niobium, the powder contained in the paste being one of niobium powder, niobium(II) oxide powder and niobium nitride powder.

25. (Currently Amended) The solid electrolytic capacitor according to claim 11 ~~[[17]]~~, wherein the compact is made of niobium nitride powder, the metal plate being made of niobium, and the powder contained in the paste being one of niobium powder, niobium(II) oxide powder and niobium nitride powder.

26. (New) A solid electrolytic capacitor comprising:
a first sintered body made of a valve metal;
a second sintered body made of a valve metal;
a first metal plate made of a valve metal and supporting the first sintered body;
a second metal plate made of a valve metal and supporting the second sintered body;
an anode terminal plate commonly supporting the first and second metal plates;
and
a package that collectively seals the first and second sintered bodies together with the first and second metal plates, the anode terminal plate being exposed from the package at least partially;
wherein each of the sintered bodies is flat and includes two principal surfaces;
wherein the first sintered body and the second sintered body are spaced from each other in a predetermined direction perpendicular to a direction in which the two principal surfaces are spaced from each other;
wherein the solid electrolytic capacitor further comprises a wire made of a valve metal, the wire being entirely embedded in each of the first and second sintered bodies and bonded directly to each of the first and second metal plates.

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27. (New) A solid electrolytic capacitor comprising:
- a first sintered body made of a valve metal;
 - a second sintered body made of a valve metal;
 - a first metal plate made of a valve metal and supporting the first sintered body;
 - a second metal plate made of a valve metal and supporting the second sintered body;
 - an anode terminal plate commonly supporting the first and second metal plates;
 - and
 - a package that collectively seals the first and second sintered bodies together with the first and second metal plates, the anode terminal plate being exposed from the package at least partially;
 - wherein each of the sintered bodies is flat and includes two principal surfaces;
 - wherein the first sintered body and the second sintered body are spaced from each other in a predetermined direction perpendicular to a direction in which the two principal surfaces are spaced from each other;
 - wherein each of the first and second metal plates has an inner surface formed with a recess and a projection in contact with a respective one of the first and second sintered bodies.